

Statement - II

The Districts covered under Operation Flood in Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh are as given below :

KARNATAKA

Bangalore	Chikmagalur
Kolar	Mysore
Belgaum	Mandya
Bijapur	Raichur
Dharwad	Bellary
North Kanara	South Kanara
Gulbarga	Shimoga
Bidar	Chitradurga
Hassan	Tumkur

UTTAR PRADESH

Agra	Jaunpur
Aligarh	Kanpur
Allahabad	Lucknow
Ballia	Mainpuri
Barabanki	Mathura
Bidaun	Meerut
Bijnor	Mirzapur
Bulandshar	Moradabad
Etah	Muxafarnagar
Etawa	Raibareilly
Farrukhabad	Saharanpur
Fatehpur	Sitapur
Gaziabad	Sultanpur
Gazipur	Unnao
Hardoi	Varanasi

Discrepancy in Rice Stock

2192. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that rice worth Rs. 1400 crore is missing from the PDS as appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated July 3, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein ;

(c) whether the Government have ordered special audit into the discrepancy in rice stocks between the figures of Food Ministry and the Food Corporation of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The assumption that rice is missing from the FCI godowns as published in 'Indian Express' dated July 3, 1997 is due to discrepancies in stocks arising out of differences in reporting methods adopted by Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs and the FCI. However, the discrepancies are being reconciled.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government have ordered a special audit of stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The audit report is awaited.

Price Exemption of Doxycycline

2193. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doxycycline was exempted from price control on the basis of R&D;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the date on which the exemption was withdrawn and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The exemption on bulk drug Doxycycline and its formulations from price control was granted by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Group on Technology Issues constituted for this purpose. This exemption was granted for a period of three years from 25.8.95 to 28.4.98 to M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd.

(c) However, following receipt of complaints that the exemption was granted without fully examining all aspects, the same Expert Group was asked by the Government to take a fresh look at the case. The members of the Expert Group gave their views on various aspects related to grant of the exemption. The report of the Committee was examined by the Government, and it was decided to withdraw the exemption. The exemption was withdrawn vide Notification No. 616 (E) dated 3.9.96.

Production and Stock of Sugar

2194. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :
SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar produced by various States during the last three years, State-wise;

- (b) whether there has been a fall in sugar production;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether sugar output during this season has been lower than the previous year;
- (e) whether March, 1997 onward there has been no improvement in the sugar out put;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (g) the total stock of sugar as on March 31, 1997 and the latest position of the sugar procurment till now;
- (h) the steps the Government propose to take to meet the demand and production of Sugar;
- (i) whether there are conflicting reports on production of sugar and on oneside and the Government say the production of sugar has been fully achieved and on the otherside Government are issuing instructions to import more sugar; and
- (j) if so, the facts thereof and the total import of sugar made so far and likely to import during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A statement giving Statewise production of Sugar during the last three sugar years is attached.

(b) and (c) The sugar production which was 98.24 lakh tonnes during the season 1993-94, increased to 146.43 lakh tonnes in 1994-95 and further to 164.29 lakh tonnes in 1995-96.

(d) The sugar production during current 1996-97 season upto 30th June was 127.61 lakh tonnes as against 160.42 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date last year.

(e) and (f) The production of sugar which was 106.05 lakh tonnes upto 31st March, 1997 for the current 1996-97 season rose to 127.61 lakh tonnes as on 30th June, 1997.

(g) The total stocks of Indigenous sugar with the factories as on 31.3.97 were about 114.62 lakh tonnes. Under the present policy of partial control 40% of the sugar production is being released as levy sugar for Public Distribution System. accordingly a quantity of 48.07 lakh tonnes has been released for consumption upto 30th September, 1997.

(h) to (j) With the carry over stock at the beginning of the season and the production during the current 1996-97 season, there would be sufficient availability of sugar to meet the internal requirement for the season 1996-97. No imports have been made during the current sugar season so far.

Statement

Statement showing State-wise Production of Sugar during the Seasons 1993-94 to 1995-96 (In Lakh Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	3.11	3.19	6.32
2.	Haryana	3.08	3.43	4.54
3.	Rajasthan	0.16	0.18	0.31
4.	Uttar Pradesh	27.15	36.09	43.60
5.	Madhya Pradesh	0.37	0.70	1.29
6.	Gujarat	8.26	7.59	11.26
7.	Maharashtra	27.46	50.25	53.76
8.	Bihar	2.21	3.94	3.79
9.	Assam	0.04	0.07	0.07
10.	Orissa	0.24	0.44	0.82

1	2	3	4	5
11.	West Bengal	0.05	0.07	0.08
12.	Nagaland	0.01	0.01	0.01
13.	Andhra Pradesh	6.47	8.74	8.66
14.	Karnataka	8.31	12.25	12.67
15.	Tamilnadu	10.85	18.59	16.22
16.	Pondicherry	0.37	0.62	0.57
17.	Kerala	0.02	0.11	0.13
18.	Goa	0.08	0.16	0.19
	All India	98.24	146.43	164.29

Support Price of Jute

2195. SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that prices of raw jute has declined during the last two months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the jute growers have been facing serious crisis due to non remunerative price fixed for raw jute and the Jute Corporation of India is also not procuring raw jute from the growers;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to fix the support price of raw jute in view to protect the interest of the growers and to start procurement from the growers by the JCI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Large jute crop of 97.5 lakh bales during 1996-97 leaving an estimated carry over stock of over 24 lakh bales as also the good prospects during 1997-98 are the main factors for declining trend in the prices of raw jute.

(c) to (e) The Government has already announced the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute for TD-grade of Assam for the year 1997-98 at Rs. 570 per quintal as against

MSP of Rs. 510 per quintal for the year 1996-97. This price is also Rs. 20 per qtl. higher than that of Rs. 550 per qtl. recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. While announcing the MSP, the Government has taken into account all relevant factors including cost of production.

The Government has already advised the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) to step up procurement of jute. The following measures have already been taken to protect the interest of the raw jute growers;

(i) JCI have been directed to start MSP operations.

(ii) A sum of Rs. 10 crores has been released by the Ministry of Textiles to JCI to start MSP operations.

(iii) Reserve Bank of India have also authorised JCI an enhanced credit limit of Rs. 10.00 crores valid upto July, 1997.

(iv) Government of India has also sanctioned a Bank guarantee for Rs. 33 crores for MSP operations by JCI.

(v) Further budgetary support will be given to JCI to enhance the activities on MSP operations.

The Hon. Minister of Textiles had already written to the Hon. Minister of Food and the Hon. Minister of Fertilisers and Chemicals to instruct the FCI and other fertiliser companies respectively to place the orders for jute bags.

[Translation]

Scholarship Schemes to SC/ST

2196. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount sanctioned under the scholarship scheme for studies of the students belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes during the last three years;